MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

17 SEPTEMBER 1982

Lebanon

Israeli Position -- A statement by the special Israeli Cabinet session on 16 September, read over Jerusalem radio by Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor, asserted that the IDF advanced into west Beirut to prevent violence following the assassination of Lebanese President-elect Bashir al-Jumayyil. The Cabinet alleged that although 2,000 "terrorists" remain in west Beirut in blatant violation of the evacuation agreement, the IDF prevented the danger of bloodshed. The Israeli Government will instruct the IDF to leave these positions when the Lebanese Army is ready to assume control of the area to ensure security, it concluded. According to Jerusalem radio, Meridor totally rejected claims made by the United States that the Israeli presence in west Beirut is a violation of the evacuation agreement. He added that it is the remaining "terrorists" who have violated the agreement. Another report by the radio on the Cabinet session asserted that the decision by the prime minister and defense minister to advance into west Beirut is unopposed by the ministers.

Earlier, Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon outlined the Israeli position to U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Morris Draper, who conveyed the Lebanese Government's demand that the IDF withdraw from west Beirut, Jerusalem radio reported.

Israeli Ambassador to Washington Moshe Arens received a firm declaration from the U.S. Government, demanding immediate IDF withdrawal from west Beirut, Jerusalem radio affirmed. The United States accused Israel of breaking promises and committing an unjustified military act. Arens rejected the accusations and said Israel did not violate any promise to the United States. Meanwhile, HA'ARETZ revealed that Arens told U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz that Syria will suffer the consequences if it does not stop its cease-fire violations.

According to Jerusalem radio's Washington correspondent, the IDF advance into west Beirut was coordinated with the Lebanese Army. The radio asserted in another report that the United States was ready to show understanding toward a limited operation into Beirut, but firmly called for a withdrawal when it realized the IDF operation was not limited in scope.

Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin, speaking at the Liberal Party center in Tel Aviv, declared that the "terrorists" had deceived him and did not leave Beirut and Lebanon with their weapons as they had agreed, Jerusalem radio reported. He underscored that the friendship between Israel and the United States is strong and deep. An IDF radio report on the speech said he called on the Lebanese people to establish a sovereign government and asserted that Israel is not interested in occupying Lebanese territory.

Military Situation -- After further fighting on 16 September in which the IDF took control of key positions and intersections in west Beirut, the city was relatively calm the following morning, Jerusalem radio reported. However, the task of flushing out leftist militiamen from high-rise buildings is not yet complete, the radio added. The Al-Murabitun militia's clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio confirmed that intermittent clashes were continuing early on 17 September. The radio was subsequently unheard. Earlier, the radio said Israeli artillery bombarded the Corniche al-Mazra'ah and Al-Murabitun's headquarters; Beirut radio said the fighting caused 153 casualties and extensive destruction. Al-Murabitun's losses in the fighting were 40 killed or wounded, the militia's command announced in a statement reported by the Voice of Arab Lebanon on 16 September. The Israelis have arrested over 1,000 people in newly-occupied areas, according to Beirut radio.

Israeli Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan said in a YEDI'OT AHARONOT interview that the IDF will not enter encircled Palestinian refugee camps, but called on "terrorists" hiding in them to surrender, Jerusalem radio reported. The IDF will entrust the task of purging the Sabra

and Shatila areas to the Phalangists, IDF radio announced. The Phalangists meanwhile killed two men who had violated the recently imposed curfew in southern Lebanon, according to Jerusalem radio.

Israeli and Syrian forces exchanged artillery fire near 'Ammiq in the Al-Biqa' Valley, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported. IDF radio said the "terrorists" violated the cease-fire near 'Ammiq but it did not mention any firings by the Syrians.

Political Situation -- President Ilyas Sarkis informed U.S. officials of Lebanon's "concern, indignation and denunciation" of the Israeli action in west Beirut, Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus disclosed in a statement broadcast by Voice of Lebanon Radio. Sarkis has decided to send a personal message to President Ronald Reagan, Butrus said, and the Lebanese UN delegation has been instructed to lodge a complaint with the UN Security Council.

The Phalangist Party's Political Bureau announced that Amin al-Jumayyil, brother of the assassinated president-elect, will be its candidate for the Presidency, according to a statement carried by the Voice of Lebanon. Earlier, the Command Council of the Lebanese forces, the military wing of the Phalangist-controlled Lebanese front, affirmed in a statement carried by the radio that the council adheres to the principles for which Bashir al-Jumayyil lost his life and that it will continue the struggle to "liberate" all of Lebanon. Meanwhile, former President Sulayman Franjiyah's "Free and Unified Lebanon" radio claimed the Phalangists have arrested members of their militia trained in Israel.

Husayn on Beirut -- Jordanian King Husayn said the Israeli move into west Beirut is an attempt to exploit the assassination of Al-Jumayyil and to deal a new blow to Lebanese national unity, Amman radio reported. Husayn called on the United States to take steps to end the Israeli advance.

PLO

Addressing a press conference in Rome, reported by ANSA, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat called for the return of U.S., French and Italian forces to Beirut to protect the Palestinians. He claimed that the honor of these three countries is at stake in view of the Israeli occupation of west Beirut. 'Arafat also said the formation of a Palestinian government-in-exile may be considered by an upcoming meeting of the Palestine National Council. ANSA reported earlier that 'Arafat spoke to an Interparliamentary Union meeting and affirmed that the PLO accepted the Fes Arab summit plan.

Egypt

The attorney general announced that the security forces foiled a "terrorist plot" aimed at freeing detained and accused prisoners and seizing power, MENA reported. He said the plot included members of the Al-Jihad organization supported by Arab and Egyptian "elements" living abroad, adding that the plotters were arrested and confessed to their plans.

Iran-Iraq War

An Iranian military communique carried by Tehran radio announced that Iran downed an Iraqi MiG-25 in the southern part of Iran. Meanwhile, Iraqi planes attacked Iranian positions in the northern battle sector, an Iraqi military communique carried by Baghdad radio asserted.

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KARMAL PAYS VISIT TO BALKH PROVINCE 16 SEP

LD160640 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0448 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] Kabul, Sept. 14, BAKHTAR -- Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, arrived by plane in Mazar-e Sharif, capital of Balkh Province today and was welcomed by thousands of the toiling citizens of Mazar-e Sharif.

Babrak Karmal, accompanied by Dr. [name indistinct], member of Politburo of PDPA Central Committee, some members of the PDPA Central Committee, administrator of the north zone and a number of party cadres, visited the tomb of Hazrati Ali and prayed for his exalted soul.

A care taker of Hazrati Ali's tomb presented a chapans (a traditional garment of Mazar's people) to Babrak Karmal.

Later, Babrak Karmal visited the oil and gas technicum of Mazar-e Sharif where he was welcomed with arduous and standing ovation of the workers, officials and employees of the technicum.

In the meeting of the employees, workers and officials of the technicum Babrak Karmal said that our party, our popular state, the ideals of our revolution and the will of our toiling people is to see that in the revolutionary and high headed Afghanistan the living standard of our people is raised morally and materially, that the country is industrialised and that just and democratic land reform is realised in the country, their traditions are not only preserved but should develop and that our country as a nonaligned, free, independent country plays its very important role in the arena of peace, freedom, social progress, democracy and social justice together with the socialist world and the workers' international liberation movements headed by the great Soviet Union, the true and honest friend of the people of Afghanistan against all the evil forces of the dark international reaction.

Pointing to the plots and conspiracies of imperialism headed by the world notorious imperialism, China's hegemonism and reaction of the region, which shamelessly interfere in the internal affairs of our country, Babrak Karmal said, now the people of the revolutionary Afghanistan have reached to that degree of their political consciousness that they will never be deceived by the enemies of the revolution.

He said today the masks have fallen from the faces of yesterday's English and today's devils who hatch plots and conspiracies by misusing the sacred religion of Islam against the religious people of the revolutionary Afghanistan.

According to another report Babrak Karmal visited the new silo project, the construction work of which is nearing completion. He was warmly welcomed by the workers, engineers and the construction employees and officials.

Later he visited the 18th Division of Balkh Province and attended a grand meeting of the officers, soldiers and commissioned officers. He said that the construction of [word indistinct] life in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan takes place under tense political and military conditions of the world. He said the aggressive forces of U.S. imperialism tries to derail the international relations from the path of relaxation of tension to the path of provoking fightings and the dangerous fluctuations of war and peace.

Karmal said the Central Committee of the PDPA and the Revolutionary's Council will consistently follow its principled policy for the total annihilation of the counter-revolution, for the further betterment of the [word indistinct] conditions of the toilers and for the all-sided development of all tribes and nationalities living in this country.

GANDHI INTERVIEWED ON UPCOMING USSR VISIT

BK161634 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] The prime minister has described the India-Soviet treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation as a symbol of dedication of the two countries to peace. In an interview to TASS on the occasion of the week-long visit to the Soviet Union beginning on Monday, Mrs Gandhi said that it is an important document signed at a serious moment in our history. The prime minister has noted that peace is essential to the world not only as a high ideal but for practical reasons also.

She said detente is an important step for ensuring peace. Therefore, we had welcomed it and worked for it. She regretted that it is now being pushed into the background.

GANDHI SENDS MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO 'ARAFAT

BK161524 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi has sent a message to PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat reaffirming the unconditional support of the Indian people to the PLO. Mrs Gandhi added that the Palestinian movement enters a new phase after heroic resistance by the Palestinian people to the latest Israeli aggression in Lebanon. The prime minister said that the PLO could remain reassured that its cause enjoys unprecedented support throughout the world.

SPOKESMAN COMMENTS ON AL-JUMAYYIL KILLING

BK151353 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 15 Sep 82

[Text] India has once again demanded withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon. A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry told newsmen in New Delhi today that Israel should give a chance to different factions in Lebanon to bring about reconciliation.

Reacting to the killing of President-elect Bashir al-Jumayyil, the spokesman said even though he was a controversial figure, the continuing cycle of destruction and killings is most regrettable. He said we are all committed to a united, sovereign and nonaligned Lebanon.

The spokesman also said that India welcomed the proposals put forward by the Arab summit recently held in Morocco to bring about a comprehensive settlement of the West Asia problem.

ZAIL SINGH TO GO TO U.S. FOR MEDICAL CARE

BK160901 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] According to a Rashtrapati Bhavan [President House] release, a panel of medical experts who recently examined President Zail Singh has advised that he requires specialised investigation to ascertain the condition of his coronary (?aortae).

The panel is also of the view that the most appropriate center for the necessary investigation and followup treatment is the Texas Heart Institute at Houston in the United States.

In view of these recommendations, the government is making arrangements for the president to proceed to Houston by the end of this month.

FIRST BATCH OF F-16'S TO ARRIVE IN DECEMBER

BK110428 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Text] Pakistan is to get the first batch of 6 F-16 aircraft from the United States in December this year. In an interview with the Pakistani newspaper NAWA-I-WAQT, American Ambassador in Islamabad Ronald Spiers said that 44 American technicians will come to Pakistan for the maintenance of the planes. Pakistan is the third country after Israel and Egypt outside the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to get this highly sophisticated aircraft.

JANG: U.S. WITHHOLDING ARMS, ECONOMIC AID

GF151450 Lahore JANG in Urdu 10 Sep 82 p 2

[Editorial: "When You Are a Friend...!"]

[Text] At last, the very thing happened which was feared by some political circles. The U.S. ambassador in Pakistan, Mr Ronald Spiers, in a recent interview said that the United States has no money for the first installment of aid to Pakistan; that it was not possible to get approval from the U.S. Congress before March 1983. With this statement by the U.S. ambassador, we also read a report from the Washington correspondent of the Indian paper STATESMAN which says that it is expected that the supply of U.S. F-16 planes to Pakistan could be delayed as the Reagan administration had failed to get approval from the U.S. Congress for the first installment of a loan to Pakistan.

The United States since September has stopped arms sales for cash as well as other aid to Pakistan which would be due to Pakistan as a member of certain defense pacts. The U.S. reasoning for this halt is that during the 1965 war between India and Pakistan the United States could not supply arms to both the belligerent sides because it could increase tensions in Southeast Asia. The application of such a policy could be justified in the case of India; however, its application to Pakistan, who was a member of various defense pacts, was totally unjustified. Later, U.S. officials did not even adhere to this policy. They provided huge installments of telecommunications equipment to India for its northern border with China. They also supplied India with heavy water for its atomic reactors. The United States not only stopped its own arms supplies to Pakistan but it also put pressure on its friends to stop their arms supplies to Pakistan and so cut off other sources of arms purchases by Pakistan. Only France has remained free of this pressure.

When U.S. interests became threatened in the Middle East and throughout Southeast Asia after the Soviet aggression in Afghanistan, and when Pakistan became exposed to this danger, the United States, in order to dispel the fears of its European allies that the United States did not meet its commitments to its allies, decided to console Pakistan somewhat. It offered Pakistan a very insignificant amount of aid which President Ziaul Haq refused as "mere peanuts" and said that Pakistan could not hope to face the Soviet Union with that small amount of aid. At that time the U.S. administration said that as President Jimmy Carter was on his way out of office, the United States was unable to make any major commitment.

After Jimmy Carter, President Reagan took office and reassured his friends of the U.S. willingness to meet its commitments and made moves to re-establish confidence among U.S. allies. The U.S. officials, sensing the Pakistani needs in view of the changing situation in the region, recommended renewed aid to Pakistan consisting of arms sales and economic aid.

As a result, an agreement for $3.2-billion worth of arms sales and economic aid was signed between the two countries. Pakistan, before signing the agreement, made it clear that the aid will not affect its role as a member of the nonaligned group and member of the Islamic Conference. The U.S. officials accepted this position.

At the time when the agreement was signed between Pakistan and the United States doubts were expressed regarding its propriety in certain international circles as well as within Pakistan itself.

The basis of these doubts was the past coolness shown by the United States toward Pakistan which had become manifest during the Indian aggression in 1965; and was later seen during the Indian aggression in 1971. However, before the agreement was signed, the United States acquired complete assurances from Pakistan regarding the Pakistan atomic research program. Pakistan was supposed to receive this aid over a period of 5 years and the U.S. Congress was supposed to approve the installment annually.

Since the signing of the agreement both U.S. and Pakistani officials have been issuing assurances that no obstacles were likely to block the aid. The U.S. officials in fact went so far as to say that the United States will not deviate from the terms of the agreement even if it risked straining its relations with India. The Pakistani ambassador, General Azim, had also expressed this hope that the first installment of F-16 planes would reach Pakistan by the end of the year.

However, in the meantime, the American Jewish lobby and India had been very busy working to undermine the agreement. The sharp reaction in the Arab and Third World countries against the Israel aggression in Lebanon had surprised the United States and U.S. officials have been heard to say that the United States will in the future only consider aid to any other countries from the point of view of U.S. interests. When voices were raised for ousting Israel from the United Nations and for economic and commercial sanctions against it, certain countries were threatened through the U.S. Embassies abroad that countries with such policies could not expect any aid from the United States. It is no secret that Pakistan has always supported the Arab claims over Palestine more than the Arabs themselves have at certain times. Israel could not have mounted its aggression against Lebanon without the green light from the United States. The Jewish lobby's grip on industry, commerce and the mass media in the United States is so strong that no U.S. President dare oppose it without risking his office.

On the other hand, Mrs Indira Gandhi has been using all her strength to stop the U.S. arms supplies to Pakistan. And now if the "revelations" the U.S. President has made are looked at in conjunction with Indian efforts and the propaganda by the American Jewish lobby, it will not be very difficult to understand reality. Now, for the approval of the U.S. Congress. The hands of the U.S. President are not tied, he can provide aid to any country despite the U.S. Congress in arms and economic matters. For example, during the India-China conflict in 1962 and during the Arab-Israel war he had been using his very same powers to their full extent and as a result a huge quantity of arms were provided to India and Israel in exercise of those powers.

The U.S. arms and economic aid is being withheld at a time when the Soviet Army has spread its military installations along the Pakistani borders; and, after India, following the Israeli example, has been threatening to destroy the atomic installations in Pakistan. On the other hand, Indira Gandhi has been confident since her return from the United States. Therefore, there is no sense in repeating that in view of the past experiences, we should, without delay, take steps toward self-sufficiency along with finding alternate sources and friends who would prove their friendship in case of need.

NEW DEFENSE ORIENTATION, 'PEOPLE'S ARMY' URGED

GF150830 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 6 Sep 82 p 6

[Editorial: "Defence of Pakistan Day"]

[Text] The nation today observes the Defence of Pakistan Day with the solemnity warranted by the occasion.

It is a day to remind not the armed forces, who are well aware of their prime duty, but to make the people of the country realise that it is also their responsibility to contribute to the defence of their beloved homeland, which is their only asset of which they can legitimately feel proud. It is for them to reaffirm their faith in Pakistan and prepare themselves not to shrink from any sacrifice in their endeavour to preserve the independence and sovereignty of their motherland.

Pakistan, which has fought three wars since it emerged on the map of the world 35 years ago, with varying experiences and lessons from each armed conflict, will necessarily have to give a new orientation to its concept of defence. Inhibited by the existing resource constraints, it is in no position to raise a mammoth army, equipped with the latest in armaments, to make for a credible deterrent. Despite our earnest desire for peace it is obvious that peace cannot be had for the asking. A weak nation "invites aggression" as the quaid had observed on one occasion in his address to the armed forces of the incipient state. It should be remembered that during the past two years and more, there has been a palpable change in the geopolitical situation around the country which has its own forebodings. In the prevailing circumstances the answer seems to lie in the creation of a citizens' defence force at minimal cost to the national exchequer.

The concept of a people's army or a nation-at-arms is not new. It is old as Islam, which is the guiding light for the teeming millions of this land. It has also been in practice for long in many countries of the world. Switzerland, for instance, has a nucleus of 1,500 persons mainly to undertake training activities. In addition, it has 27,500 conscriptees receiving military training, and reserves of 526,500. Its total mobilisation takes 48 to 72 hours, and a force of 600,000 to 650,000 men is raised when the need arises. In Israel, military service is compulsory for all men and women up to the age of 55. A regular professional nucleus imparts training and constitutes the hard core of the Israel army. In Sweden, every physically fit male citizen between 19 and 47 years of age is required to serve in the armed forces. After ten months of initial training the conscripts are placed on indefinite leave, though in theory they are members of the armed forces to be mobilised into a 700,000 strong fighting force. Military service in the People's Republic of China is compulsory, and citizens are called up at the age of 18. China thus has a standing army of 2,550,000 with a five million strong front line militia. Lately, even Jordan has decided to establish a "peoples' army" to defend the country against aggression from outside.

Why then can we not emulate the example of these countries? Ours is a robust nation frittering away its reserves of energy in pursuit of a multitude of wasteful preoccupations after the working hours are over. And these idle pursuits have no reliance to the avocations and no bearing whatsoever on vital interests of the country. Nationals from among our people have made a name for their grit and valour whenever they have fought, first in the British Indian Army and later in the Pakistan forces. All that is needed is for us to make a common cause of that which the homeland needs most and selflessly accept a role in the defence of the country with a high degree of motivation. True, we have some para-military forces but, these do not embrace all our able-bodied men who should not shirk the responsibility they owe to the country.

It is also for the armed forces to keep an open house and not look askance at their civilian brethren. If the country has to be defended, it has to be defended by its entire population, for when a country is at war, a nation is at war. It is this irrefutable fact that has to be acknowledged by the masses of Pakistan and substantiated by the extent to which they contribute to the national effort, to defend the homeland as a trust to posterity from generation to generation. Let us on this day make a firm resolve that we shall not prove ourselves unequal to the task.

OVERSEAS WORKERS AGGRAVATING INFLATION AT HOME

GF101942 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 22 Aug 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Overseas Workers and Investment"]

[Text] The federal government is reported to be moving towards setting up investment advisory centres in OPEC states and other countries where Pakistanis are working in large numbers. Clearly, the government wants more of the earnings of Pakistanis to be brought home, and more of that invested in productive channels instead of being spent on current consumption, thereby aggravating the inflationary pressure at home. Two official studies made in recent months show that the rate of savings and investment in the over three billion dollars brought in by the Pakistanis as money and goods is only between 14 and 16 per cent, while about 62 per cent is spent on current consumption and about 22 per cent on acquiring land and building houses.

What such studies show is that the current consumption of the workers' families has taken a big leap within a short time. While the income of the workers jumped five to ten times abroad compared to what they were earning in Pakistan, their current consumption has also taken a somewhat similar leap. This can create serious problems for such families when the workers return home. Their hardships will be really acute if their savings are too small and the income from them negligible.

Official estimates appear to be that the demand for workers in OPEC and other labour-importing countries will be between 3.7 and 4.6 per cent until 1985. Clearly, this is an earlier estimate that does not hold good any longer. The oil glut in the world and fall in oil prices have sharly reduced the surplus funds of the oil states and they are slashing their ambitious development plans. In countries like Libya and Nigeria development outlays have been heavily slashed and large number of foreign workers forced to return home. The oil glut is forcing countries even like Saudi Arabia to cut down the output drastically, creating serious financial problems for the country. In such an unfavorable world context Pakistan will be wiser not to count on an increasing flow of workers to the oil states or elsewhere.

Even otherwise the nature of the demand for workers in those countries is changing rapidly. Instead of the unskilled building workers who can work in very high temperatures and lift heavy loads easily, those countries now need technical personnel. They want the men who will run the machines, manage the computers and do similar technical jobs. A certain number of such men are being produced in the country now and they are not adequate even to meet the country's needs. If more and more of such men are encouraged or forced by the conditions to go abroad the shortage of skilled and technical men in the country which it faces now will become even more acute and retard its industrial growth.

While the official notions about an escalating supply of labour to foreign countries needs to be corrected, earnest and determined efforts have to be made to ascertain why so much of the emigre workers' earnings are going into current consumption and so little towards savings and investment, and why the institutional investment is as low as two per cent of the overall earnings brought home. So much of their earnings is spent on current consumption because of the inflation at home and the social compulsion to keep up a high standard of living that is officially buttressed in practice while it is decried verbally. And the soaring prices in the country too make many to believe that it is wiser and more economic to invest their income on houses, lands, shops etc. among the fixed assets, and on consumer durables instead of paying far more for them later. If an economy reaches the stage when people think that buying is saving and spending is investment there will be little of real national savings in the country, as is happening in Pakistan. Because of inflation the real return on savings -- after adjusting for the real inflation -- from institutional investment is small even when the interest rate seems very attractive. And the stock exchange is largely paralysed for attracting such investors.

So, if more of the workers' remittances have to be saved and invested inflation within the country has to be checked, not merely by denying its extent or its adverse impact but through positive means which can be painful initially for some groups.

The workers have to be provided with better real returns on their savings and investment. And positive efforts have to be made to reduce the high material standard of living that is becoming common, including through stopping the official media like TV and radio from playing the role of over-active promoters of consumerism and conspicuous waste. Indisputably it would take far more than opening a few investment advisory centres in OPEC countries to channel the emigrants' earnings into investment and production channels at home.

While so much emphasis is being laid on getting hold of emigrants' earnings, not enough is being done to persuade the local capital to go into productive channels adequately. As a result, there has been considerable flight of capital from the country, although the considerable devaluation of the rupee might have checked it to an extent. If such capital is to stay home and go into real investment, the corporate sector has to be given tax relief as is being done in other advanced countries, while positive investment relief has to be given to small investors, particularly the fixed income groups.

Without such comprehensive and realistic measures savings and investment in the country cannot increase rapidly or substantially. Let the government hence not think of investment as a one horse race or as a simple problem with a single remedy that can be provided by our workers abroad.

IMMIGRATION CAUSING 'SERIOUS' LABOR DEFICIT

GF101955 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 29 Aug 82 p 3

[By Anwar Iqbal]

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 27 -- Large scale immigration of skilled and semi-skilled workers has created not only a serious shortage of labour force in the internal labour market but also the ancillary quality and skill, says a survey conducted by the Bureau of Immigration.

The skilled labour force required for Pakistan's construction and manufacturing sectors emigrated excessively as compared to the growth in their domestic supply. The transport sector is also found to be facing shortage of drivers.

An important factor generally observed is that the workers who are migrating are of better quality and have more experience in their field while those left behind are less skilled and less-experienced. This has affected the quality of production in the manufacturing sector and also led to increasing accidents on roads.

According to the estimate of manpower division, about 2,61,226 persons of various categories such as foremen/supervisors, technicians, masons, carpenters etc. have been in short supply for the fifth-five year plan (1978-83). [sentence as published] The total supply of the additional labour force during 1978-83 was expected to be 3.84 million, whereas the total additional requirement of manpower during the same period was expected to be 3.35 million for the internal market and 0.4 million for the overseas market. But, looking towards the occupational demand the country was expected to face the shortage of technical manpower, despite the fact that there was a surplus labour force in all the major occupational groups.

Besides the skilled workers, the migration of experienced engineers had also created the problem of a serious nature.

Most of the engineers, after graduating from the educational institutions, stayed in the country only for a period required to get a job abroad. Once they obtain the required experience they leave the country.

The immigration of teachers, clerical staff, businessmen and service-men, however, was not causing any alarm as the proportion of their demand was not yet very significant.

The migration of doctors and medical personnel was also not very significant due to the control of their emigration.

Another major impact was that the remittances made by the overseas workers had led the increased supply of currency and its circulation in the country on the one hand and increase in the demand of some professionals within the country on the other hand was contributing to inflationary trend in pushing the general wages/cost structure upward.

Due to higher wages and other benefits as compared to the local markets, the savings of emigrants have been much higher. Every departing worker from the country had pre-planned remittance of maximum amount of money out of his earnings to his family in Pakistan.

In addition to certain benefits, there are some adverse effects of emigration too such as loss of talent, shortage of skilled manpower, rise in local wage level, rise in price level and inflation, change in the pattern of production and techniques etc.

IRAN SHOWS WILLINGNESS TO PURCHASE MORE WHEAT

BK131115 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Text] Iran has shown a willingness to purchase another 50,000 metric tons of wheat from Pakistan. This was stated by a senior official of the Iranian Government, (Fariddin Afghani), in Lahore who is these days supervising the dispatch of 50,000 metric tons of wheat already purchased by his country. He said the wheat already purchased by Iran from Pakistan and being sent to his country was much better in quality than that produced by several other countries. His country is interested in buying more grain from Pakistan in view of the standard and quality of wheat already purchased.

MUSAVI ON WAR, FES SUMMIT, AL-JUMAYYIL DEATH

LD161406 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] Today Mr Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, prime minister, accompanied by Dr Manafi, minister of health, and a number of deputy ministers from the Roads and Transportation and Commerce Ministries, arrived in Bandar 'Abbas to study the difficulties of Hormozgan Province.

The president and those accompanying him left for the Bandar 'Abbas airbase to inspect it [words indistinct]. Before leaving for the Bandar 'Abbas airbase, Mr Musavi, prime minister, referring to the aims of his trip to Hormozgan Province said: The aim of this visit is to study the problems and difficulties of this region, following the trip of three respected government ministers [passage indistinct].

The prime minister referred to the continuation of the war until the achievement of a final solution and said: We have repeatedly announced that we will continue this war until we achieve our conditions. We will continue delivering our crushing blows upon the regime of Saddam. We have not given up this policy and our forces are fully prepared to deliver their decisive blows upon Saddam's regime.

Then, referring to Iranian position regarding the Fes conference, Mr Musavi, the prime minister, said: In the Fes conference certain issues were discussed which seem to include the implicit recognition of Israel. Certainly, we will not compromise with any such movement. We will oppose it. The officials of our country have repeatedly announced this.

Referring to the death of Bashir al-Jumayyil, the president imposed by the Israeli regime in Lebanon, and the steps taken by Israel after this defeat, the prime minister said: The main point is that the Israeli and American plan met with a clear defeat in this connection. This matter is very clear from the expressions of regret made by the American, Western and Israeli officials concerning this matter. We expect Israel to engage in fresh savagery. It will probably attack west Beirut or subject the Muslims (?in the border areas) to greater attacks. However, this is certainly a setback for America and will prepare the ground for an uncompromising movement against Zionism and imperialism in the region.

IRANIAN PRESS ON AL-JUMAYYIL ASSASSINATION

GF161251 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Press review]

[Text] The papers concentrate editorially on the death of Bashir al-Jumayyil, leader of the Lebanese Phalangist Party. SOBH-E AZADEGAN says: We said earlier that the Fes summit will awaken this nation. But even we did not believe that the reaction would be so swift, particularly what happened in Lebanon. Bashir al-Jumayyil moved toward occupying the post of treason, following the Fes summit, to practice corruption in Lebanon and injustice against the deprived. His imminent fate would have occurred without making such an aspiration. [sentence as heard] The paper adds: Our expectation was not based on knowledge of future events, but because this is God's way to all the unjust, and this does not change because if God delays punishment of the unjust he does not neglect them, and they will eventually receive their just punishment.

JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI says: It is a natural end for someone who is proud of initiating friendship with the enemy and goes in the direction of killing thousands of the deprived Palestinians and Lebanese in return for being rewarded by the United States and the Zionists, who are imposing him as president on the oppressed.

The killing of the traitors in Beirut indicates that this incident comes at the hands of the deprived, who a while ago witnessed in Beirut the mutilation and scattering of the bodies of their children, their women and fathers at the hands of the United States and the Zionists in support of the treacherous isolationist elements. They realized that instead of being punished, Al-Jumayyil was imposed on them as president. So they decided to [words indistinct] and let him have his just punishment.

JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI continues by saying that Shah Husayn, Shah Hassan and Husni Mubarak, in addition to other traitors of the nation and Islam, are now worried because the fire that burned Bashir al-Jumayyil will undoubtedly spread to burn up the injustice and treasonous thrones of the Satans. That is why the United States yesterday instructed the Zionist entity to put further military pressure on the Lebanese Muslims in order to create an atmosphere of panic and fear in their lines and, consequently, to make their surrogates in the region be at ease.

PARS [name of paper as heard] comments editorially on this subject and said it expects that the United States will soon have a new candidate who is deeply involved in agentry and killing the oppressed to impose on Lebanon as president. Sa'd Haddad, who is well-known by the oppressed people in southern Lebanon as a criminal and obedient stooge of the Zionist entity and the United States, is not ruled out as a candidate. His fate will be no better than that of Bashir al-Jumayyil since the killing of Bashir al-Jumayyil in the bomb blast at the Phalangist headquarters indicates a new stage of confrontation between the oppressed on one hand and the surrogates of the United States and the Zionist entity on the other. This is the first incident in the chain of confrontation which will, God willing, lead to the removal of the Zionist entity and all the treacherous regimes in the Arab world.

SAUDI POLICE ATTACK IRANIAN PILGRIMS IN MEDINA

GF160955 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] Saudi security officials and policemen yesterday attacked five convoys of the Iranian pilgrims in Medina. They also tore up photos of Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, belonging to the pilgrims.

Moreover, following the visit made by Hojjat ol-Eslam Kho'ini, the imam's representative at the pilgrimage, to the hoseyniyeh of the city the day before yesterday and his meeting with a number of the Muslim ulema, the Saudi security officials and policemen arrested these ulema on charges of meeting with Imam Khomeyni's representative and of taking coins on which Jerusalem is engraved. Among those arrested were a number of members of the committee that supervises the administration of the hosevniyeh.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi-Kho'ini also met yesterday with the members of the Jordanian pilgrimage committee in the Medina. He told them: We want to reinforce the unity of the brother Muslim Shi'ites and Sunnis during the ceremonies of pilgrimage this year, and for this reason we have taken part in all the Friday prayers of the Sunni Muslims. He also referred to the aggressive war of the Iraqi regime which is imposed on Iran and the Iranian conditions for ending this war. A Jordanian mullah said: You are right in this war.

TELEPHONE LINKS WITH HAJJ HEADQUARTERS CUT

LD161210 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Excerpt] According to reports received, at 1130 today the [word indistinct] telephone line of the hajj headquarters and the imam's mission was cut by Saudi officials. According to our correspondent's report, nearly all the pilgrims will leave Medina for Mecca by next Sunday.

KHO'INI CONDEMNS SAUDI TREATMENT OF IRANIANS

LD161322 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Kho'ini, the representative of the imam and the supervisor of the Iranian pilgrims, made a statement protesting against the savage behavior of the Saudi officials and police, who do not even refrain from beating up and injuring the ulema and women. The text of the statement is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. On the basis of the teachings of the Koran and in obedience to the commands of God and the noble prophet, may God's peace and blessings be upon him and his kin, it is incumbent upon the Muslims to always express their hatred and revulsion toward the infidels, especially during the hajj. We, too, have resolved to carry out this great religious duty. However, do the Muslims know that some of the Iranian pilgrims have so far been subjected to insults for the offence of announcing their revolution? Do they know that some sisters and brothers have been beaten up, injured and subjected to all kinds of torture for expressing their revulsion toward world arrogance led by America and its illegitimate child Israel? Do the Muslims and the pilgrims to the holy shrines know that a large number of Iranian pilgrims have been imprisoned? So far nothing is known of the fate of some of them. We do not know whether they are still in prisons, hospitalized due to the wounds and injuries inflicted upon them by the agents of the Saudi regime or whether they have met with another fate.

Do the Muslims of the world know that hundreds of men and women, even great ulema, in holy Medina, have come under the blows of the Arabian police in various places and at various times? Do the Muslims know that on the eve of performing the hajj rites the Saudi Government has expelled a number of Iranian pilgrims for the offence of performing their Islamic duties, thus depriving them of the honor of pilgrimage to the house of God and performing their hajj rites?

Do the Muslims of the world know that an illustrious and aged clergyman of Medina, Mr Shaykh Muhammad 'Ali (Fajri), the Friday imam of the mosque of the Shi'ites of Medina, has been arrested and imprisoned because he was visited by someone from the Imam Khomeyni mission and because some Iranians attended his mosque? Do the Muslims know that by creating an atmosphere of fear and intimidation the Saudi police and security agents are trying to prevent any meetings between the anxious Muslims and pilgrims from other countries and Iranian pilgrims and that so far they have arrested a number of non-Iranian brothers taking part in the anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist demonstrations on Friday?

Do the Muslims know that the Saudi officials are preventing any contact between the pilgrims and the Imam Khomeyni mission? Do the Muslims know that the Imam Khomeyni mission is surrounded by Saudi police and security agents and that at every moment they are tightening up the encirclement? Do the Muslims know that Arabian agents, contrary to the explicit teachings of Islam, are trampling upon the honor of the Muslims and have confiscated the property of many arrested Iranians, which has not been returned? Do the Muslims know that the Arabian agents have arrested a number of people on charges of possessing portraits of his great eminence and are coercing them to hurl insults at the sacred name of the imam and that as they are met with the steadfastness of the Iranian pilgrims they subject them to torture and injury?

Do the Muslims know that following the holding of the Fes conference and the futile attempt to recognize the greatest enemy of Islam, the scourge of 100 million Arabs in the world, and in order to bring to power a government in Lebanon that is supported by the usurping regime which occupies Palestine, the Government of Saudi Arabia engages in such actions to harm and coerce those Muslims who call for the destruction of Israel, the occupier of Palestine, and Muslim unity to fight against world arrogance? The fact that these two calamities [the Fes conference and the harassment of Iranian pilgrims] coincide should provide food for thought to every Muslim.

As the representative of a great leader who, due to the grace of Islam and the heroic support of the Muslim Iranian nation, made the Islamic revolution victorious and transformed the greatest base of American aggression and collaboration with Israel in the region into a base for the propagation of Islam and struggle against arrogance and Zionism, and as the supervisor of the Iranian pilgrims, I strongly condemn these enemy-gratifying activities. Meanwhile, in this capacity I hold the Government of Saudi Arabia responsible for the protection of the lives and the health of the Muslim Iranian sisters and brothers who have been detained by the Saudi police. Once again I reiterate that nothing will prevent the Iranian Muslims from performing their hajj rites and carrying out that which Islam enjoins them to do.

In conclusion, I ask all Iranian pilgrims to continue performing their duties in accordance with regulations, observing order and calm, and bring their call for justice to the ears of all Muslims. I also ask all Muslims to have a correct and dignified approach, in keeping with Islamic dignity, toward the behavior of the Saudi agents. I also ask the officials of Saudi Arabia to consider the dignity of Islam and the pilgrims and refrain from hurting the pure sentiments of Iranian pilgrims, who are the representatives of the most powerful nation in the region and the greatest enemy of America and Israel. I take refuge from all this inhumane oppression and behavior in God and I take my complaints to the noble prophet, may God's peace and grace be upon him and his kin. I call the Muslim sisters and brothers to endure hardships by reminding them of the calamities that his holiness endured in the path of the advancement of the word of God and fighting against the blasphemous, infidels and all who ignore all that was inflicted upon him.

Greetings upon all the monotheists and Muslims of the world, and those who fight against world arrogance and blasphemy. Greetings to all the sisters and brothers who have been subjected to beating, injury and arrest by the Saudi police. Death to world arrogance and blasphemy. Death to the Zionist regime occupying Palestine.

IRAQI MUSLIMS DEMONSTRATE AGAINST SADDAM HUSAYN

LD161744 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] According to reports we have received, the Muslim and struggling people of Iraq continue to show their hatred and revulsion toward the Ba'thist-Zionist regime of Saddam. The same reports state that on 7 and 9 September the Muslim and heroic citizens of Basra staged some demonstrations and, while chanting slogans, threw stones and smashed the windows of a police station.

These reports indicate that the Ba'thist-Zionist regime of Iraq used special forces and helicopters to end the demonstrations. As a result, 2 policemen were wounded and 20 Muslims were arrested by Saddam's forces.

According to these reports, the opponents of Saddam's regime opened fire on the security centre of Kirkuk and set fire to two police vehicles. A number of Saddam's security forces were also killed.

The assembly center of the Ba'thist forces in As-Sulaymaniyah was also attacked by the opponents. Three policemen were killed and more than 15 others were wounded. During a clash on the (Khanqah) avenue of this city, three members of Saddam's special forces were killed.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 1,049

LD161736 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Communique No 1,049 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. At 1241 today, the heroes of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran, using antiaircraft guns, downed one of the intruding aircraft of the aggressive Iraqi Army, a MiG-25, in the southern part of the country.

Yesterday artillery and heavy-weapon fire continued to be exchanged on most of the western fronts of the country. In every region, the timely heavy-artillery fire of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran answered the enemy fire. Silencing the Saddamist mercenaries' fire, they inflicted losses and casualties and set fire to one of the supply depots of the Saddamist forces. In the Musian area, the heroes of the gendarmerie returned the enemy fire for hours. They opened fire on the enemy's units and positions and inflicted losses on the Saddamist forces.

On the southern fronts of the country the heroes and combatants of Islam bravely guarded their defensive positions and fortifications and opened artillery and heavy-weapon fire on every front, foiling the operations and movements of the aggressive Iraqi forces and inflicting losses and casualties. By opening fire on the supply axes of the Saddamist forces, they disrupted their supply operations.

During the past 24 hours, the Saddamist criminals have continued to use their long-range artillery fire on the residential areas and installations of the city of Abadan, martyring nine of the beloved Abadan compatriots and wounding four others.

Yesterday a number of the intruding aircraft of the aggressive Iraqi Army tried to violate the airspace of several western and southern border cities of the country. However, the enemy's intruding aircraft were forced to flee by the antiaircraft fire of the armed forces and the tactical measures of the brave pilots of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

During the battle and exchanges of gun fire on 14 September, one of the heroes of the gendarmerie, while defending our Islamic homeland Iran, achieved the lofty honor of martyrdom.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

More on Downing of MiG-25

LD162130 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] IRNA has reported on the destruction of the advanced Iraqi MiG-25 by the fast pilots of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran today.

This intruding aircraft was hit by the missiles of the fast fighters of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran at 1240 and crashed into the Persian Gulf.

This aircraft's downing was recorded by the region's radar and our heroic and proud pilot also witnessed the pilot of the downed aricraft descending by parachute. The region's patrol forces are busy carrying out a search to find the pilot, dead or alive, in the Persian Gulf.

In this connection Colonel Mo'inpur, commander of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran, has told an IRNA correspondent: This aircraft flies at 70,000 ft with a speed approximately three times the speed of sound. It cannot be downed by conventional systems.

TEHRAN REPORTS ENEMY LOSSES INSIDE IRAQ

LD162112 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, the combatant forces of Islam maintained their superiority along the entire Marivan front during the past 24 hours.

Following artillery fire mounted against the infidel Iraqi positions at Panjwin, Hargineh and [word indistinct] regions inside Iraq, our forces inflicted extensive losses and casualties on the Iraqi forces as well as silencing their fire. At Toveyleh, five Iraqi group bunkers were destroyed and a number of Iraqis were either killed or wounded.

At the center of Biarreh city where the enemy keeps its vehicles, one vehicle was destroyed and three were damaged by the fire of the forces of Islam.

According to an IRNA report, the forces of Islam fired on the enemy positions during the past 24 hours and destroyed 1 82-mm mortar post, 10 bunkers, 7 observation posts and 5 foxholes set up in the vicinity of Saybah across the Arvand Rud, inside Iraq. Some 42 Iraqis were killed and wounded. Our forces also prevented the Iraqis from setting up new trenches and halted Iraqi traffic on Al-Faw-Basra supply route.

FORCES ATTACK 'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES'

LD161722 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Text] According to a report received from the Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada headquarters yesterday, the brave warriors of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the self-sacrificing guards and Mobilization forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, together with the Muslim Kurdish tribesmen, in a joint and coordinated operation, launched a surprise attack and mopped up another 10 km of the Piranshahr-Sar Dasht strategic highway and occupied it. During these operations, the counterrevolutionaries suffered heavy losses.

KOMELEH, KDP CLASH IN MAHABAD VILLAGES

GF150636 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 4 Sep 82 p 2

[Excerpt] Urumiyeh -- Col Sharif ol-Nasab, commander of Mahabad garrison, has reported: When the agents of the Democratic and Komeleh parties tried to blackmail the people of one of the villages, fighting broke out.

Furthermore, according to reports received after this incident, Komeleh agents attacked the disorganized Democratic Party and, as a result, eight members of the Democratic Party were taken prisoner by Komeleh members. One 150-mm cannon and one 50-caliber gun was seized by the Komeleh Party. The Urumiyeh army commander said: The clash between the minigroups around Mahabad was caused by deep disagreements between them. He said: the minigroups have many fights among themselves about who controls the western zone and many clashes have occurred over this.

VOICE OF IRAN REPORTS ON 'SECRET' EXECUTIONS

GF160646 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 15 Sep 82

[Text] The regime of mullahs took its first step in a desperate reaction to the recent bombings by executing four members of its opposition. According to reports reaching us, the four individuals were executed by firing squads on Monday morning, 13 September, in Rasht. So far, none of the news media of the regime has mentioned the executions.

On Saturday, the Islamic government secretly executed four opposition members who opposed Khomeyni in Kermanshah. Only the government-controlled KEYHAN newspaper -- after a 48-hour delay -- published the news, claiming that those executed were spying for Iraq. According to a claim by the same newspaper, Gholam 'Abbas Baba'i, who was mentioned as the person responsible for the attempted assassination of 'Ali Musavi-Khamene'i, the present president of Khomeyni and Tehran's Friday imam at the time, was one of those executed in Kermanshah.

The recent executions indicate the expansion of the regime's harshness and there is a great possibility that the number of executions, the majority of which are carried out secretly, will increase in the future.

79 ARRESTED WHILE ATTEMPTING TO LEAVE COUNTRY

GF160747 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 15 Sep 82

[Text] With efforts of the self-sacrificing Mobilization unit of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Abdan district, 79 individuals who intended to illegally exit the country were arrested. According to the Central News Unit, this group, which had ten automobiles and was staying in the vicinity of Abdan village, was delivered to the Bushehr Revolution Court after the arrest and investigation.

ROADS MINISTER OUTLINES CONSTRUCTION PLANS

LD161920 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Excerpts] Mr Hadinezhad-Hoseyniyan, minister of roads and transportation, who is on a tour of inspection of Gilan Province and of the activities at Bandar Anzali, spoke to a correspondent in Rasht this morning and answered questions put to him.

In his remarks, the minister said that his ministry is currently supervising the construction of 20,000 km of rural road. He also said that, following the revolution, 20,000 km of rural road was constructed and opened to traffic.

The minister said that 58 billion rials in credit has been allocated for construction of roads in this year's budget [for period 21 March 1982-20 March 1983], of which 45 percent has already been spent.

Commenting on the reconstruction of the roads in the country's war-stricken regions, the minister said that reconstruction of the Tehran-Ahvaz railway has been started and the line will be ready for use within the next few days. He further added that the reconstruction of more than 100 bridges, destroyed by the infidel forces of Saddam, has started. The minister said 5 billion rials in credit have been allocated for this task.

During the interview, the minister also revealed that projects to equip the country's airports with technical equipment have been given priority in the 5-year plan [starting 21 March 1983] and the airports to be equipped include those at (Yasuj) and Ilam.

Commenting on the sea routes and the construction of new ports, the minister said that work on the construction of the port named after the martyr Raja'i near Bandar 'Abbas has been proceeding speedily and there are plans for the construction of new ports at Konaru and Chah Bahar.

Concluding his remarks, the roads and transportation minister called upon all truck owners and drivers to call at Bushehr and Bandar 'Abbas to help with the task of transporting essential goods.

USSR ENVOY REPORTEDLY COMPLAINS OF MEDIA TREATMENT

GF160636 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 15 Sep 82

[Text] The new Soviet ambassador in Tehran again met the officials of the mullahs' Foreign Ministry. The Soviet ambassador went to meet Javad Mansuri, the cultural under secretary of the Foreign Ministry of mullah's government, on Tuesday morning, and during the meeting expressed his unhappiness with the treatment of the Soviet role in Afghanistan by the mass media on the regime.

It has been reported that Mansuri in turn outlined the Soviet role in supporting Iraq and informed the Soviet ambassador: We hope you will consider the results of this war and give consideration to the facts and realities of the regime of the Islamic Republic in your policies.

Recent rumors indicate that the relations between the mullahs in Tehran and the Soviet Government have cooled. The ruling clique in the Islamic Republic has expressed its unhappiness with Soviet military aid to Iraq.

NVOI Assails Media Treatment

TA160454 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 15 Sep 82

[Unattributed commentary: "One Must Not Remain Silent in the Face of the Distortion of Facts"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: During a meeting with the new Soviet ambassador, our homeland's deputy foreign minister expressed the hope that officials of other countries would bear in mind the facts and realities regarding the Islamic revolution in the course of all their policies, and maintain a positive and constructive attitude in various fields toward the Islamic Republic of Iran. This is a correct statement that enjoys the approval of everyone.

As shown by the realities, documents and statements of official authorities of the Soviet Union and the writings and commentaries by the mass media of this neighboring country, so far not even a single instance can be shown in which our northern neighbor did not have a constructive attitude in various fields toward our Islamic Republic. Moreover, whether prior to or on the eve of the revolution and during all the period of more than 3 years that has passed since our nation's glorious revolution, the Soviet Union in practice has always decisively and in a constructive manner unstintingly supported the Islamic Republic of Iran against all the plots -- from economic boycotts to threats of intervention -- by the counterrevolution and world-devouring America. Inevitably, in turn, the Soviet side as well has the right to reciprocally expect the Islamic Republic of Iran to adopt such an attitude. However, let us see what the attitude of some of the officials and particularly of some of the writers and irresponsible sloganeers in our homelands' mass media is toward the Soviet Union.

The fact is that not only do some of our homeland's officials and authorities and mass media not have a constructive attitude when facing the realities and facts pertaining to the life and policy of the Soviet Union, but rather their attitude is openly hostile and biased. We do not have to search very far. Let us consider the very issue of Israel's aggression against Lebanon and the Palestinian people which took place with the direct support of the United States. From the outset of this aggression we could see what a tumult was raised and the inauspicious role of forgers of history and realities played by some officials and by a number of unauthorized individuals who are the leaders of multifarious associations such as the Hojjatiyeh Association, and by some, mostly newly arrived, commentators from the West.

A commentary recently broadcast by the Voice and Vision of our Islamic Republic about the Lebanese events and the role of the Soviet Union and the United States in this event is another example of this biased attitude, and in fact is an attempt to seek a partner in crime for world-devouring America, and is actually tantamount to excusing this international super-criminal. In connection with the Lebanese events, the respectable commentator of this commentary carried by one of the three or four newspapers that currently have a publishing monopoly, openly places the Soviet Union at the side of the United States and writes that the Lebanese tragedy is the outcome of the collusion of these two superpowers. If no one else is aware, at least these gentlemen commentators -- who at present possess nothing from Islam and human and Islamic ethics except a pseudo-Muslim appearance and an address for insults, accusations and abuse -- must be well aware that since the start of the activity of the Palestine resistance movement, and not yesterday or today, the Soviet Union has supported this movement with all its might and with all its financial and military potential. The Soviet Union has not only consistently supported and continues to support the Palestine resistance movement, but also all the countries of the steadfastness front, both from the military and political standpoints. Yasir 'Arafat as well as the presidents of Syria, Libya, Algeria and Democratic Yemen have repeatedly acknowledged this fact.

In the last couple of days Yasir 'Arafat, in an interview with DER SPIEGEL, has said: The Soviet Union is our loyal friend, and it did everything possible to stop Israel's aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinian people. In this interview 'Arafat said that Israel, by utilizing America's support, had planned a major attack on Lebanon a long time ago, and that this attack and aggression in a sense was more by America than Israel.

Well, what can be done now? It is not clear why a number of persons who are connected with some Islamic American associations, news agencies and mass media have even become more Palestinian than Yasir 'Arafat and the leaders of the Palestine resistance movement, and more Arab and Muslim than the leaders of the Arab steadfastness front.

Some of these very respectable commentators, such as the journalistic Keshmiris and Kolahis, are agents and therefore excused, but others, under the impact of their intimations, are suffering from the disease of fanaticism, superficiality and mental prejudice, and say whatever their heart desires, and there is no one to ask these gentlemen: Where is the human and Islamic ethics about which you talk so much?

We have nothing to do with those newly arrived commentators from the West who for years spent time in the corners of the nightclubs of the capitals of Western countries and the United States. The account of these gentlemen, who have made the beard and bead a mask to strike at the Islamic Republic, is clear.

What is unfortunate is why those who expect other countries to be realistic toward the realities of our society and to have a constructive attitude are keeping silent in the face of all these distortions? By this expedient silence they are actually calling into question the principle that they themselves deem necessary to be observed in relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and other countries.

NVOI CALLS FOR ELIMINATION OF QOTBZADEH'S LINE

TA162018 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 16 Sep 82

[Unattributed commentary: "Let Us Identify the Qotbzadehs"]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots: The first branch of the Revolution Court of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, after constant review and consideration of the various aspects of the crimes and confessions of the traitor Qotbzadeh, came to the logical and legally just conclusion that this germ of corruption had in general committed two basic offenses, the penalty of each being execution.

One of these two offenses by Qotbzadeh which we believe should be noted foremost of all was the hatching of the plot to assassinate the high-ranking officials of the Islamic Republic, headed by the imam of the nation, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. In implementing this satanic plan by America and the counterrevolution, Qotbzadeh placed large sums of money and houses at the disposal of his elements and had made them other promises also.

It is essential to devote attention to the point that one of the basic ploys and methods of the U.S. espionage and intelligence organizations in the struggle against progressive, anti-imperialist and popular systems is the assassination of their leaders.

Both America, the counterrevolution and their dregs are well aware what broad and extensive influence and moral power the imam of the nation enjoys among the million-strong masses of our homeland. They are well aware that as long as this moral influence of the imam for mobilizing the million-strong masses and joining all the revolutionary forces in battle for securing the rights of the oppressed and toilers and establishing social justice exists, the defeat of the revolution and the elimination of its gains is not possible. For this reason, too, in the plan that the U.S. CIA had drawn up to overthrow the Islamic Republic of Iran and whose implementation was assigned to the traitor Qotbzadeh, the killing of the imam of the nation had top priority.

The other offense of Qotbzadeh was masterminding the plot to overthrow the Islamic Republic of Iran, taking practical steps and distributing money among individuals and -- in order to implement his intentions -- dispatching envoys to coordinate foreign countries and domestic opposition wings, and receiving intelligence and financial assistance.

The proceedings of Qotbzadeh's trial showed that the boundaries of the plot against the Islamic Republic of Iran and the leaders of the revolution were outside the framework of a plot with purely domestic characteristics. The proceedings of the interrogations showed that the participants in this plot were in contact with a wide network of Western, particularly American, espionage and intelligence organizations, figures and rulers of reactionary regimes, international subversive organizations, and internal and external counterrevolutionary groups.

What is instructive for us in connection with Qotbzadeh's trial and his execution is that we must be aware that with Qotbzadeh's dispatch to hell the Qotbzadeh trend has not been eliminated. One must see how and under which mask and with what garb and appearance Qotzbadeh and other Qotbzadehs such as Bani-Sadr, Madani, Amir-Entezam, Bagheri, Nobari, Saddeq, Keshmiri, Kolahi and similar individuals were able to penetrate into the Islamic government. As long as we do not understand this, we must anticipate the rise of another Qotbzadeh.

World-devouring American and imperialist intelligence and espionage organizations have a great number of these colored snakes up their sleeves, and currently they are nestling in the various echelons of government organizations and the different institutions of our homeland. Above all, these foes of the revolution have wrapped themselves up in the doctrinaire and religious garb, and it is in this garb that they have dealt and continue to deal blows to the revolution and our Islamic Republic.